GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2812
ANSWERED ON:17.12.2008
AIDS DUE TO BLOOD TRANSFUSION
Gandhi Smt. Maneka

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some Thalassemic patients get AIDS after blood transfusion in the hospitals;

(b) if so, the details thereof;and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to check that HIV infected blood is not put into blood banks?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE(SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) to (c) Thalassemic patients are among one of the group of multiple transfused patients who are at a high risk of acquiring Transfusion Transmissible Infections such as HIV infection.

Under the provisions of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act,1940 and the rules therein,every unit of blood is mandatorily screened for Transfusion Transmissible Infections (TTI) viz. HIV,Hepatitis B (HBsAg),Hepatitis C,Syphilis and Malaria. Only the blood units found negative for these markers is used for transfusion purposes and the sero-reactive blood units are discarded as per guidelines.